

JENNIFER AND TODD FACT PATTERN

Barren County Police Department
Case Number: 2015-12345678
Initial Report

On Monday 05-05-2015 at approximately 0010, Officer Johnson and I were dispatched to an assault call at 14 Porter Road via 911 call in which caller, identified as "Jennifer" reported her boyfriend, Todd, assaulted her in her car about one mile from her house. She reported that she left him on the highway and was concerned he was on his way to their house. While Officer Johnson and I were en route, dispatch told us that the male was banging at the front door. As Officer Johnson and I were approaching, dispatch said the man was in the house. I arrived at the residence first and could see a white male with his back to me as I looked into the window from the driveway. All of a sudden a white female ran outside waving her arms saying he was inside. I approached the front door with my handgun drawn. I yelled "Police Department" and the man turned around with his hands in the air. I ordered him to the floor and handcuffed him. He told me his name was Todd. I searched him and found no weapon on him. Todd told me he put his rifle behind the bookcase.

I read Todd his rights. The following is a summary of his statement:

He and his girlfriend Jennifer had gone to a party at Jennifer's sister, Beth's, house. When they were leaving, Todd gave another guest, Lisa, a hug goodbye. Lisa is Todd and Jennifer's close friend. While driving, Jennifer accused Todd of cheating on her. He gave Jennifer a smart-ass answer and even though Jennifer was driving, she got angry and sucker-punched him three times in the face, cutting his lip. Todd hit Jennifer once in the face with his fist. Jennifer stopped the car and he got out. Jennifer drove off towards home but then turned around and drove back to Todd. Todd tried to open the driver's door to get Jennifer out of the driver's seat but Jennifer put the car in reverse and floored it. The driver's door hit him in the top of his head leaving a cut, and he ended up on the ground. Jennifer put the car in drive and pulled forward hitting his knee.

When Todd got home, the doors were locked, so he kicked in the front door. When he walked in the door, Jennifer was holding a loaded .22 rifle pointed at his head. He thought she was going to shoot him in the head, so he grabbed the gun away from her. When he heard the police; he threw the gun behind the bookcase.

Todd drank three beers at the party. Jennifer was drunk and smoking pot with the people at the party.

As Todd spoke, I smelled a moderate breath odor of an alcoholic beverage. I observed a small cut on Todd's lower lip and the top of his head. I photographed the injuries to his mouth and head. Officer Johnson remained with Todd as I interviewed Jennifer. I read Jennifer her rights. The following is a summary of her statement:

She and Todd went to a party at her sister Beth's house. As Jennifer drove home from the party, Todd started calling her a "bitch" and other derogatory names, so she slapped him on the mouth. He kept calling her names and then grabbed her by the throat and hit her again in the face while she was driving. She was able to pull over and get him out of the car. She started to drive home, but she thought he might have cooled down so she turned around to pick him up. When she stopped, Todd grabbed the driver's door. She backed up so fast that she hit the dirt bank. She did not know if she ran him over or not, but she took off. She is afraid of Todd so when she heard him banging on the front and back doors, she got his gun. She has no idea how he got into the house but he came in and said,

"Go ahead —Shoot me in the head". Then he said, "I am going to kick your ass" and he took the gun from her. She then ran out the front door.

As Jennifer spoke, I did not detect any breath odor of an alcoholic beverage. I asked her who was at the party. Jennifer told me: Beth, Lisa and about 5 other people that she did not know. I photographed Jennifer's injuries which consisted of a discolored right eye and multiple cuts to her mouth. She told me there was severe pain where she had been hit. I could not see any evidence of where she had allegedly been choked.

This fact pattern was created for training purposes. The names and incidents in this fact pattern are fictitious.